

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SCS-03 SCA-01
SY-05 OPR-02 INRE-00 NSCE-00 PRS-01 USIE-00 SSO-00
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S/S-O:SSTEINER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL STUTTGART IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 044712

BRASILIA FOR DEPT SECTY

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UG, US

SUBJECT: UGANDA SITN REPT NO. 7 AS OF 2330 GMT FEBRUARY 28,
1977

THE FOLLOWING IS THE SEVENTH SITUATION REPORT ON UGANDA
PREPARED BY THE UGANDA WORKING GROUP IN THE DEPARTMENT.
IT IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY. DO NOT RPT NOT DRAW
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UPON IT WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

, AT 1620 MONDAY WE RECEIVED NOTICE THAT KAMPALA RADIO
REPORTED THAT "A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN HAS ANNOUNCED
THAT HIS EXCELLENCY'S SCHEDULED MEETING WITH THE AMERICAN
NATIONALS IN UGANDA, ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 1977, HAS NOW

BEEN POSTPONED AND ANOTHER DATE WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER."
WE HAVE CONFIRMED THIS THROUGH THE UGANDAN CHARGE WHO
MET WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE AT 1730 HOURS.

2. PRESIDENT CARTER'S PERSONAL BUT ORAL MESSAGE TO AMIN
STILL HAS NOT BEEN DELIVERED TO AMIN BUT THE UGANDAN
CHARGE HAS TOLD US THAT AMIN WILL SEE THE FRG AMBASSADOR
TUESDAY MORNING. THE CHARGE WAS ASKED BY US ABOUT DIS-
TURBING REPORTS OF A FULL MILITARY ALERT IN UGANDA AND
HE WAS TOLD THAT THE US DOES NOT HAVE ANY MILITARY

INTENTIONS IN THE AREA OR PLANS TO "INVADE" UGANDA AS HAD
BEEN ALLEGED. THE CHARGE PASSED THE VIEWS TO KAMPALA
AND HE SAID THAT THE GOU HAD BEEN HAPPY TO RECEIVE
ASSURANCES THAT THE U.S. WAS NOT PLANNING TO USE MILITARY
FORCES, ADDING "WE HOPE YOU KEEP YOUR WORD."

3. PRESIDENT AMIN MET MONDAY AT ENTEBBE WITH A SMALL
GROUP OF AMERICANS AND OTHER FOREIGNERS WHO WORK FOR
UGANDA AIRLINES, TELLING THEM, "THEY WERE BROTHERS AND
SISTERS TO UGANDANS". AMIN STATED HE WISHED TO HONOR
ALL AMERICANS WORKING IN UGANDA AT THE MASS RALLY
SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, RADIO
UGANDA BROADCAST THE MEETING WAS POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER
NOTICE. AMIN WAS REPORTED TO BE IN A JOVIAL MOOD AND HE
REITERATED THAT HE WISHED TO HONOR THE AMERICANS FOR
THEIR SERVICE WITH NO OTHER MOTIVES NO MATTER WHAT OTHERS
MAY SAY.

4. MEANWHILE, THE USAF REPORTED TODAY THAT PRESIDENT
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AMIN'S PERSONAL GULFSTREAM JET IS PRESENTLY IN
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA UNDERGOING SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE AND
REPAIR. THE CREW CONSISTS OF FOUR PILOTS AND THREE
MECHANICS. ALL ARE UGANDAN NATIONALS AND ALL ARE CON-
CERNED ABOUT THEIR FAMILIES REMAINING IN UGANDA.

5. DURING THE DAY ARRANGEMENTS WERE COMPLETED FOR A
CHARTERED BALAIR DC-8 (200 PASSENGER CAPACITY) TO LEAVE
ZURICH ON MARCH 1 AT 1205 A.M. E.S.T. TO ARRIVE AT
KINSHASA ON MARCH 1 AT 0845 A.M. E.S.T. TO BE AVAILABLE
FOR EVACUATION OF AMERICANS. THE FLIGHT HAS NOW BEEN
CANCELLED.

6. WE HAVE A REPORT THAT AMIN AND PALESTINIAN TERRORISTS
MAY BE INVOLVED IN PLANS TO "HIJACK" A PLANE WHICH WOULD
BE PROVIDED BY AMIN TO "DEPORT" SOME AMERICANS.

7. THE FRG AMBASSADOR'S LATEST REPORT REACHED US AT 1745

IN WHICH HE SAID THAT NEWS ON KAMPALA RADIO WAS THAT MESSAGES HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE PRESIDENTS OF ZAIRE, SUDAN, AND RWANDA AND KING KHALID AND THAT AMIN WAS GRATEFUL TO AMERICANS, WHICH HE DID NOT WISH TO HARM; THAT PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER WAS TOO NEW AND YOUNG IN OFFICE AND HAD MISINTERPRETED HIS INTENTIONS AND THAT HE HAD NO EXPERIENCE IN AFRICAN AFFAIRS.

THE AMBASSADOR HAS STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE TO AMIN OF THE AMERICAN AVIATION PERSONNEL WHO OPERATE HIS AIRCRAFT (ITEM 4). THE AMBASSADOR BELIEVES THAT ALL SIGNS ARE THAT THE WEDNESDAY MEETING (NOW DEFERRED) WOULD BE

FRIENDLY AND ADVISES AGAINST A PERSONAL MESSAGE OR SPECIAL ENVOY TO AMIN.

RELATED TO THIS ARE THE COMMENTS OF MR. CHARLES HANNER OF PAGE AIRWAYS (SEE ITEMS 4 AND 5) THAT AMIN WAS VERY
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PLEASED WITH THE ELECTION OF PRESIDENT CARTER BUT NOW FEELS THAT HE HAS LOST FACE BECAUSE OF THE RECENT COMMENTS OF THE PRESIDENT.

8. BRIAN SCHWARTZ THE SON OF A PROMINENT NEW YORK JUDGE WAS DETAINED IN UGANDA FEBRUARY 27, APPARENTLY AFTER TRAVELING FROM KENYA TO KAMPALA. BONN WAS REQUESTED TO HAVE FRG EMBASSY KAMPALA INFORMED OF SCHWARTZ'S DETENTION.
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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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